

CLAIMS:

1. An isolated polynucleotide consisting of a Banana Streak

Virus promoter sequence selected from:

(a) the promoter sequence of a Nigerian isolate of Banana

5 Streak Virus shown in SEQ ID NO. 2;

(b) a promoter sequence of an isolate of Banana Streak Virus, which promoter sequence is an allelic variant of the promoter sequence of SEQ ID NO. 2;

10 (c) a fragment of (a) or (b) which, when operably linked to a transcribable sequence, promotes transcription of the transcribable sequence in a *Musaceae* plant cell.

2. An isolated polynucleotide according to claim 1 wherein said promoter sequence is shown in SEQ ID NO. 2.

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3. An isolated polynucleotide consisting of a promoter sequence, which promoter sequence:

20 (i) selectively hybridizes under stringent conditions with a polynucleotide complementary to a polynucleotide which has the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2; and

(ii) when operably linked to a transcribable sequence promotes transcription of the transcribable sequence in a *Musaceae* plant cell.

25 4. An isolated polynucleotide according to claim 2 which has a nucleotide sequence found in a strain of Banana Streak Virus.

5. An isolated polynucleotide consisting of a promoter

sequence, which promoter sequence is at least 75% identical to the promoter sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 and which when operably linked to a transcribable sequence promotes transcription of the transcribable sequence in a *Musaceae* plant cell.

6. A nucleic acid construct comprising the promoter sequence of a polynucleotide according to any one of claims 1, ^{3 and} ₁ to 5 and a non-Banana Streak Virus sequence.

7. A nucleic acid construct according to claim 6 wherein the promoter sequence is operably linked to a transcribable sequence.

8. A nucleic acid vector suitable for transformation of a plant cell and including the promoter sequence of a polynucleotide according to any one of claims 1, ^{3 and} ₁ to 5.

9. A nucleic acid vector according to claim 8 wherein the promoter sequence is operably linked to a transcribable sequence.

10. A plant cell containing a heterologous polynucleotide, nucleic acid construct or nucleic acid vector according to any one of claims 1, ^{3 and 5} ₁ to 9.

11. A plant cell according to claim 10 having a heterologous said polynucleotide or nucleic acid construct within its

~~chromosome.~~

a 12. A plant cell according to claim 10 ~~or claim 11~~ which is comprised in a plant, a plant part or a plant propagule, or an 5 extract or derivative of a plant.

a *Dark CS* 13. A method of producing a cell according to claim 10 ~~or~~ 10 ~~claim 11~~, the method including incorporating said polynucleotide, nucleic acid construct or nucleic acid vector into the cell by means of transformation.

14. A method according to claim 13 which includes recombining said polynucleotide or said nucleic acid construct with the cell genome nucleic acid such that it is stably incorporated 15 therein.

a 15. A method according to claim 13 ~~or claim 14~~ which includes regenerating a plant from one or more transformed cells.

a 20 16. A plant comprising a plant cell according to claim 10 ~~or~~ *a* ~~claim 11~~.

a 25 17. A part or propagule of a plant comprising a plant cell according to claim 10 ~~or claim 11~~.

a 18. A method of producing a plant, the method including incorporating a polynucleotide, nucleic acid construct or nucleic acid vector according to any of claims 1 to 9 into a

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plant cell and regenerating a plant from said plant cell.

19. A method according to claim 18 including sexually or
asexually propagating or growing off-spring or a descendant of
5 the plant regenerated from said plant cell.

20. Use of a nucleic acid vector according to claim 8 ~~or claim~~
in the production of a transgenic plant.

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